East Naples & Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue Districts
14575 Collier Blvd
Naples, FL 34119

JOINT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
May 14, 2014

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Gerrity called to order the joint meeting of the East Naples and Golden Gate Fire Control & Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 6:11 PM on May 14, 2014 at Station 73, Joint Headquarters. Present were Chairmen Hemping and Gerrity, Commissioners Stedman, McMahon, Cross, Cottiers, Boyer and Page. In attendance were Brian Mading, Chris Rossi, Jim Burke, Matt Trent, Brandon Bunting, Jose Santana, Michael Ramsey, Bobby Ramsey, SB Holmes, and Rep. Matt Hudson. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Gerrity opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

GGFD Commissioner McMahon moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

C. Approval of Minutes of March 11, 2014

GGFD Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 joint BOFC meeting. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 joint BOFC meeting. Commissioner Page seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

D. Representative Matt Hudson

Representative Hudson commended Chief Schuldt's hard work up in Tallahassee; the Chief attended every meeting and sat in on all committee hearings. He went on to say that the Bills only required a few minor technical amendments. Interestingly other districts have inquired to see if Representative Hudson could possibly help them since there are other districts out there that could potentially merge. The Governor signed 52 bills into law and Rep. Hudson made mention of some bills that were passed that affect Collier County. Among those signed, SWFL was selected as the number one location, with Collier County coming in first for a State Veteran's nursing home. Also signed into law, a mandatory minimum 50 year sentence for any predatory act towards a child (12 yrs and under). He went on to report that the State was good stewards with the budget and with that was able to put $3 billion into reserves which is good since Florida is a hurricane state. Rep. Hudson also stated that Florida has the highest credit rating in the Country. A bill, relating to fire and EMS, was passed, for public places (theme park, restaurant, etc) to keep a supply of EpiPens on hand, along with the training, which has

the potential to save a life or two. Also, with Alzheimer's being the 6th killer of Floridians, a bill was passed to provide for a universal database for special needs citizens in the event of an emergency evacuation. He hopes that this bill will help bring normalcy to a crisis situation.
Chairman Hemping, on behalf of the East Naples Fire Board, thanked Rep. Hudson for sponsorship of the bills and for all of his support both here and in Tallahassee.
Commissioner Steadman, on behalf of Golden Gate, also thanked Rep. Hudson.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consolidation- Golden Gate and East Naples

Chairman Gerrity began by letting everyone know that the ENFD/GGFD Bill has passed both the House and Senate and was signed into law by the Governor.
Chairman Hemping reminded everyone that a Merger Team meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, May 15th at 8:30 AM. They are scheduled every two weeks.
Chairman Hemping also let everyone know that the 5 year plan is being worked on for the ENFD side of the merger and GGFD's 5 year plan should be starting very soon. These plans should be very helpful to the citizens.
Discussion will begin at the Merger Team meeting on the campaign to let the residents know what will be on the ballot, when and how to vote, etc.
Commissioner Cross updated both boards on the progress on the sale of ENFD District property. One of the Village Falls double units have sold for $115,000, with an $111,000 net profit to the District. An offer of $1.15 million has been accepted for the Outer Drive property; the buyer is currently in the 120 due diligence period and there is a playground on the property that needs to be addressed.
And lastly, Commissioner Cross continues to work on a land swap for the Sable property.
Commissioner Cross requested motions be made by both boards to spend district monies for information only, solely fact based mailings. He realizes district monies cannot be spent to lobby voters. These mailings would assist to clear up any miscommunications the citizens may have. He is looking for funds in the amount of the $5,000 - $10,000 range towards a targeted mailing. He thinks it is important to hear the facts straight from the District's mouth; but make sure this gets run by legal to make sure the District is not campaigning.
ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve, pending legal proof of the agenda, that ENFD contribute $10,000 towards an informational mailing, not politically driven, based on solely factual, budgetary, job savings, that cannot be challenged and that legal is comfortable with that can be mailed out to registered voters. Commissioner Page seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Boyer opposed.
Commissioner Boyer spoke against the motion and did not think this was legal, spending tax payer money, and would feel more comfortable with finding an outside agency willing to spend money for this type of project. He has no problem getting information out to the citizens but thinks it is illegal to use district money.

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GGFD Commissioner Stedman moved to approve a similar motion to ENFD; to approve expenditure of funds, not to exceed $10,000 for a factual based mailing, subject to legal. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion for discussion. Motion passed 2-1, with Commissioner McMahon opposed.
Commissioner McMahon also spoke out against the motion stating that he does not want to spend taxpayer money to push the other commissioner's agenda.
Commissioner Stedman emphasized that he fully supports this as long as legal finds no conflict with Florida Statute. GGFD has sent out informational flyers before. He does not support it if legal finds conflict.
Director Bishop did state that with the Bill being signed, the next step is to get with the Supervisor of Elections to review the referendum wording and to confirm that the question has been translated correctly from English to Spanish and that the question is not too biased one way or another. The Isles language needs to be in by June 20th and the ENFD/GGFD language needs to be in August 26th. Director Bishop commended Attorney Varn for going above and beyond by making sure the language was translated. He continues to stay in contact making sure all the steps are being completed.
Chief Schuldt updated the Board informing them that the HOA meetings have dwindled down quite a bit since "season" is over. These meetings reached 1400 people through 45 homeowner groups. The focus now is on the civic associations along with the continuation of answering any questions that are posed. To prepare for next year, budgets are preliminarily being looked at; getting an idea at what a single budget will look like. Working as a joint district, for almost a year now, the districts can see what works and what doesn't and where improvements need to be made as well as a unified organizational chart. Chief Schuldt concluded by commending the staff for all of their hard work.
It was mentioned by a community member that the merger has been endorsed by the Naples Chamber of Commerce, Safety Committee. Commissioner Page stated that the Collier Citizens Council has also endorsed the merger.
Chairman Gerrity questioned the bidding for health care. He was curious to know if we could work with the Union to have one bid under CFAS. Director Bishop responded by stating that the bids would have to be separate until after the vote due to EIN numbers. There will be so called quotes for joint healthcare for informational purposes only. Chairman Gerrity was under the assumption that we could end up with the same health plan if we go with CFAS to which Director Bishop responded that there has been no direction from either board to purchase healthcare with CFAS.
Chairman Hemping stated that the two districts would bid out healthcare separately but not sign a one year contract knowing that after the merger, the attempt would be to move both districts to one plan with one broker but this has to go through collective bargaining.

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1. Cost Savings Worksheet
   The joint District has realized a net savings of $522,174.36.

B. Annexation - Isles of Capri and East Naples

Commissioner Page reported that he and the Chief attended an Isles Advisory Committee meeting earlier in the month and it appears that there is some confusion on the vote and what it means. So a Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for July 10, 2014 at 4:00 PM at the Isles of Capri Community Center to hopefully clear up any confusion that is out there. He is hoping to also get a flyer out, similar to what the County sent out in regard to the straw ballot, which would explain what the vote is for. There will be one challenge and that will be getting the mailing list to send the flyers; a fire district itself cannot get access so the Union will probably be requested to help since a PAC can do it. He welcomed all commissioners to attend the Town Hall meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

None

Board of Fire Commissioners
(Topics initiated by the Board)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to adjourn the ENFD/GGFD joint meeting at 7:03 PM. Chairman Hemping seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

GGFD Commissioner Stedman moved to adjourn the ENFD/GGFD joint meeting at 7:03 PM. Chairman Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Steve Hemping	Date 7-8-14	Chairman Kevin Gerrity	Date 7-8-14
Commissioner Brian Cross	Date 7-8-14	Commissioner Dave Stedman	Date 7-8-14
Commissioner Charlie Cottiers	Date 7-8-14	Commissioner Chuck McMahon	Date
Commissioner Robert Boyer	Date		
Commissioner Jeff Page	Date 7/8/14		